

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In the office action, the drawings were objected to based on various informalities. In response to the objections, Figures 8 and 9 of the drawings are being corrected as shown in the attached replacement drawing sheets. Additionally, the text "delimiter 910" on page 36 is being amended to "delimiter 911". The reference sign 911 is now shown on Figure 9. Additionally, the text "result (A) 1015" on page 38 is being amended to "result (A) 1025". The reference sign 1025 was previously and is currently shown on Figure 10. No new matter is being added by virtue of the correction to the drawings and specification. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

In the office action, the specification was objected to based on various informalities. In response to the objections, the specification is being amended as shown in the replacement paragraphs above. No new matter is being added by virtue of the amendment to the specification. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Various claims are being amended as shown above. No new matter is being added by virtue of the amendment to the claims.

In the office action, claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response to

the Examiner's rejection, claim 2 is being amended as shown above to overcome the rejection.

For the above-reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

In the office action, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 17, 24, 25, 27, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by "Insertion, Evasion, and Denial of Server, Eluding Network Intrusion Detection" by Thomas Ptacek, et al. (hereinafter referred to as Ptacek). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Ptacek discloses an intrusion detection system that mutates injected packets by duplication, removal, re-ordering, and overlapping of strings in the packet. Ptacek also discloses the use of malformed packet headers and the use of buffer overflows. In the office action, the Examiner correctly states that Ptacek does not disclose various allowable subject matter. Various independent claims are being amended above to recite various features that are not disclosed and are not suggested by Ptacek. Accordingly, each of the claims 1-5, 7, 8, 17, 24, 25, 27, and 28 are patentable over Ptacek.

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102.

In the office action, claims 1-5, 7, 17, 19, 24, 25, 27, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Reshef, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,569). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Reshef discloses a web application vulnerabilities detection system that mutates injected packets by removal and addition of strings in the packet. In the office action, the Examiner correctly states that Reshef does not disclose various allowable subject matter. Various independent claims are being amended above to recite various features that are not disclosed and are not suggested by Reshef. Accordingly, each of the claims 1-5, 7, 17, 19, 24, 25, 27, and 28 are patentable over Reshef.

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102.

Various claims are being added above, and each of the new claims recite features that are not disclosed and are not suggested by the cited references, considered singly or in combination. Accordingly, the new claims are patentable over the cited references, considered singly or in combination. No new matter is being added by virtue of the new claims.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

If the undersigned attorney has overlooked a teaching in the cited reference that is relevant to the allowability of the claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically point out where such teachings may be found.

Since May 21, 2006 falls on a Sunday, this response is being filed on the following business day of Monday, May 22, 2006. Accordingly, this response is being filed within the 3-month shortened statutory period for reply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If the Examiner has any questions or needs any additional information, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (805) 681-5078.

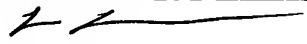
Date: May 22, 2006

Respectfully submitted,  
Penny C. Leavy, et al.



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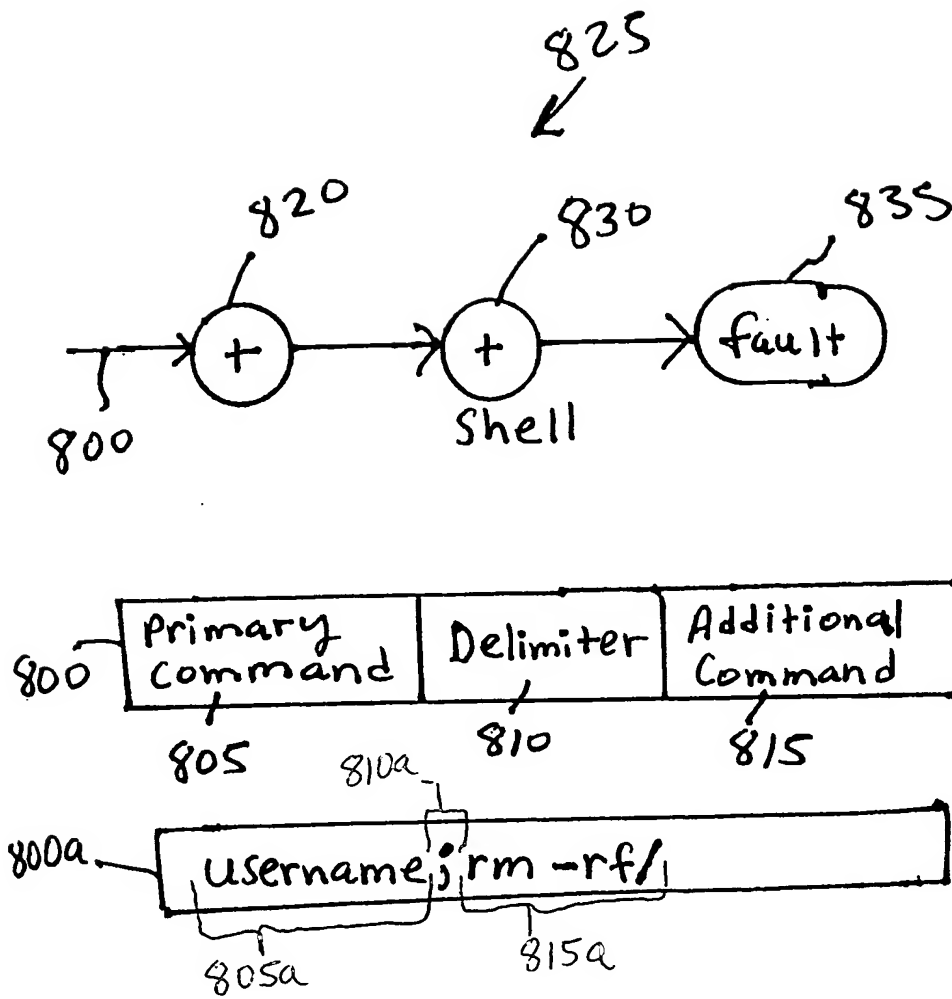


Figure 8

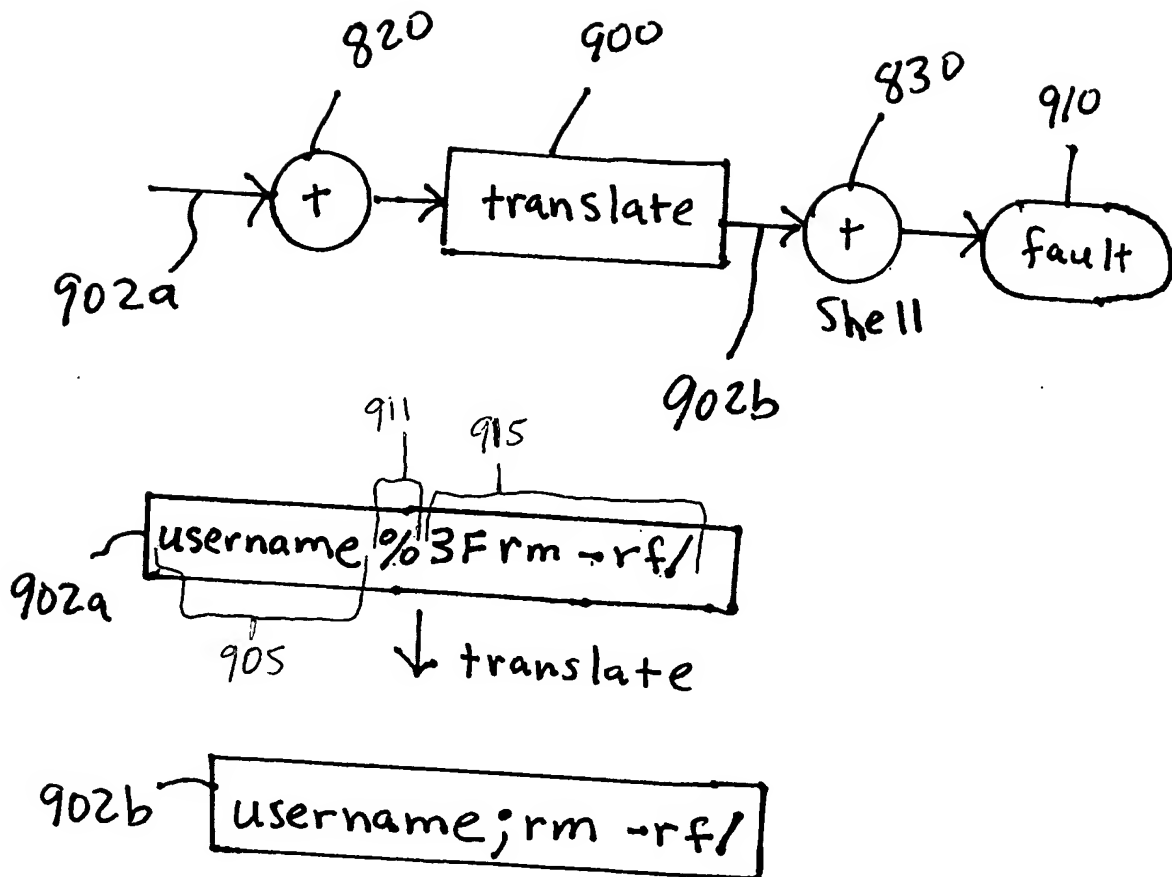


Figure 9